IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 6, 10, 15, 19, 24, 28, 33, and 37 in accordance with the following:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A personal information management apparatus which electronically manages personal information of a user, comprising:

a personal information database selection unit selecting a personal information database based on rules from a personal information storage unit including a plurality of personal information databases respectively storing personal information about different situations of the <u>same</u> user;

a processing unit processing the personal information database selected by said personal information database selection unit, such that the personal information can be read and written; and

a memory storing the rules referenced for selecting the personal information database, which are set by the <u>same</u> user in advance upon starting a use of the personal information management apparatus.

2.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a clock unit outputting current time data,

wherein said rules are defined based on the time data output by said clock unit.

3.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a transmission/reception unit, provided in a network, transmitting and receiving data to and from an information processing terminal through the network,

wherein said personal information database selection unit selects the personal information database through the network, or directly selects the personal information database.

4.   (ORIGINAL) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said rules are defined based on information received by said transmission/reception unit about access path in the

2

Serial No. 10/000,088

network from the information processing terminal.

5.   (ORIGINAL)   The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said rules are defined based on information received by said transmission/reception unit and designating the information processing terminal.

6.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a status information input unit inputting ~~any~~ user status information comprising ~~in user status information containing~~ a situation of ~~a~~ the same user and a status of ~~a~~ the same user,
        wherein said rules are defined according to user status information input through said status information input unit.

7.   (ORIGINAL)   The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
        a personal information nonmatching detection unit detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit; and
        a personal information nonmatching notification unit notifying of the difference detected by said personal information nonmatching detection unit.

8.   (ORIGINAL)   The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a personal information synchronization unit amending one piece of different personal information detected by said personal information nonmatching detection unit to match the other piece.

9.   (ORIGINAL)   The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
        a personal information nonmatching detection unit detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit; and
        a personal information synchronization unit amending one piece of different personal information detected by said personal information nonmatching detection unit to match the other piece.

10.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A personal information managing method which electronically manages personal information of a user, comprising:

3

setting rules, for selecting personal information databases, by the <u>same</u> user in advance upon starting a use of a personal information management apparatus;

retaining the rules in a memory;

selecting a personal information database based on the rules from a personal information storage unit including a plurality of personal information databases respectively storing personal information about different situations of the <u>same</u> user; and

processing the selected personal information database such that the personal information can be read and written.

11.   (ORIGINAL)   The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
outputting current time data;

wherein the rules are defined based on the output time data.

12.   (ORIGINAL)   The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
transmitting and receiving data to and from an information processing terminal through a network;

wherein the personal information database is selected through the network, or the personal information database is directly selected:

13.   (ORIGINAL)   The method according to claim 12, the rules are defined based on received information about an access path in the network from the information processing terminal.

14.   (ORIGINAL)   The method according to claim 12, the rules are defined based on received information designating the information processing terminal.

15.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
inputting ~~any~~ user status information <u>comprising</u> ~~in user status information containing~~ a situation of ~~a~~ <u>the same</u> user and a status of ~~a~~ <u>the same</u> user,

wherein said rules are defined according to the input user status information.

16.   (ORIGINAL)   The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two

4

Serial No. 10/000,088

personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit; and

notifying of the detected difference.

17.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:

amending one piece of the detected different personal information to match the other piece.

18.   (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:

detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit; and

amending one piece of the detected different personal information to match the other piece.

19.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium storing a personal information management program used to direct a computer for electronically managing personal information of a user, by:

setting rules, for selecting personal information databases, by the <u>same</u> user in advance upon starting a use of a personal information management apparatus;

retaining the rules in a memory;

selecting a personal information database based on the rules from a personal information storage unit including a plurality of personal information databases respectively storing personal information about different situations of the <u>same</u> user; and

processing the selected personal information database such that the personal information can be read and written.

20.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The storage medium according to claim 19, further comprising outputting current time data, wherein said rules are defined based on the output time data.

21.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The storage medium according to claim 19, further comprising transmitting and receiving data to and from an information processing terminal through a network,

wherein data is transmitted and received to and from an information processing terminal through a network; and

5

said personal information database is selected through the network, or said personal information database is directly selected.

22. (ORIGINAL) The storage medium according to claim 21, wherein said rules are defined based on received information about an access path in the network from the information processing terminal.

23. (ORIGINAL) The storage medium according to claim 21, wherein said rules are defined based on received information designating the information processing terminal.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The storage medium according to claim 19, further comprising inputting ~~any~~ user status information comprising ~~in user status information containing~~ a situation of ~~a~~ the same user and a status of ~~a~~ the same user,
wherein said rules are defined according to the input user status information.

25. (ORIGINAL) The storage medium according to claim 19, further comprising detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit,
wherein said detected difference is notified of.

26. (ORIGINAL) The storage medium according to claim 25, further comprising:
amending one piece of the detected different personal information to match the other piece.

27. (ORIGINAL) The storage medium to claim 19, further comprising:
detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit; and
amending one piece of the detected different personal information to match the other piece.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A personal information management program used to direct a computer for electronically managing personal information of a user by:
setting rules, for selecting personal information databases, by the same user in advance upon starting a use of a personal information management apparatus;

6

retaining the rules in a memory;

selecting a personal information database based on the rules from a personal information storage unit including a plurality of personal information databases respectively storing personal information about different situations of the <u>same</u> user; and

processing the selected personal information database such that the personal information can be read and written.

29.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The program according to claim 28, further comprising outputting current time data,

wherein said rules are defined based on the output time data.

30.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   The program according to claim 28, further comprising transmitting and receiving data to and from an information processing terminal through a network,

wherein data is transmitted and received to and from an information processing terminal through a network;, and said personal information database is selected through the network, or said personal information database is directly selected.

31.   (ORIGINAL)   The program according to claim 30, wherein said rules are defined based on received information about an access path in the network from the information processing terminal.

32.   (ORIGINAL)   The program according to claim 30, wherein said rules are defined based on received information designating the information processing terminal.

33.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   The program according to claim 28, further comprising inputting ~~any~~-user status information <u>comprising</u> ~~in-user status information containing~~ a situation of a <u>the same</u> user and a status of a <u>the same</u> user,

wherein said rules are defined according to the input user status information.

34.   (ORIGINAL)   The program according to claim 28, further comprising detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit,

wherein said detected difference is notified of.

7

Serial No. 10/000,088

35.   (ORIGINAL)   The program according to claim 34, further comprising:

amending one piece of the detected different personal information to match the other piece.

36.   (ORIGINAL)   The program according to claim 28, further comprising:

detecting a difference in personal information of predetermined items common to two personal information databases stored in said personal information storage unit; and

amending one piece of the detected different personal information to match the other piece.

37.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A personal information management apparatus which electronically manages personal information of a user, comprising:

setting means for setting rules for selecting personal information databases by the same user in advance upon starting a use of a personal information management apparatus and storing the set rules;

personal information database selection means for selecting a personal information database based on the rules from personal information storage means including a plurality of personal information databases respectively storing personal information about different situations of the same user; and

processing means for processing the personal information database selected by said personal information database selection means such that the personal information can be read and written.

8